

REMARKS

1. Introduction

In the Office Action mailed October 5, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Schneider, U.S. Patent No. 6,570,871 ("Schneider") and rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schneider in view of Tangorra et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,760,602 ("Tangorra"). However, the Examiner allowed claims 1-8 and 15-34.

2. Response to Rejections

In response, Applicants have canceled claim 9-14 without prejudice. Thus, claims 1-8 and 15-34, which the Examiner has already found to be allowable, are currently pending.

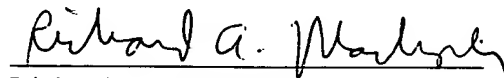
Because the Examiner has found all of the pending claims to be allowable, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is hereby requested. Should the Examiner feel that further dialog would advance the subject application to issuance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

**McDONNELL BOEHNEN
HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP**

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By:


Richard A. Machonkin
Reg. No. 41,962